

increase, and industrial production grew 40 percent above 1938 levels (Wexler 250-51). With Western Europe fortified, aid could safely be extended to Germany (Mee 239).

In addition to combating nationalism, German reconstruction created a buffer to communist East Germany and added industrial resources to the European economy. Still scarred from past invasions, France refused to allow Germany to sign the OEEC protocol in April 1948. Later, with U.S. pressure, Germany has included in trade and was given funds, making German reintegration a common goal (Hogan 129-130). By the fall of 1948, many issues had been resolved and the Allies began to draft a framework for an independent, democratic West Germany. By 1964, Marshall aid increased foreign trade by 100 percent, boosted industrial production by 600% and reduced unemployment to a mere 0.4%. In Germany, the Marshall Plan had become more than just an aid package; it had jump-started production, preventing the conditions that spawned the Third Reich after W.W.I (Mee 256-57).

Today, American preventive action largely consists of sanctions to debilitate enemies or diluted aid policies that rely on handouts alone. The current situations of America's Cold War adversaries demonstrate the inadequacies of both policies. Like the Treaty of Versailles, America's continuing vendetta against Fidel Castro has produced decades of embargoes and hardship, but no signs of capitalist reform (Leeden 24). In the economically unstable Russia, current policies of IMF aid may seem similar to the Marshall Plan, but missing components will allow the ruble to continually devalue. Increased trade and regulatory body could permanently stimulate production, but dumping aid into a faulty infrastructure is temporary and wasteful ("Other Marshall Plan" 29).

While the iron first of the Treaty of Versailles dragged the world into a second World War, the Marshall Plan broke the cycle of German aggression. Additionally, the reconstructed nations created a power balance that helped keep the Cold War from igniting a full-blown conflict. While they may intimidate some countries, harsh economic measures punish innocent civilians and will always pose the risk of a backlash. Nourishing free-trade policies address the root causes of many conflicts, promoting more permanent peace. History demonstrates the need to remove vengeance from preventative diplomacy and address the world's problems with a more wholistic, stabilizing approach.

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PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 1, 1999

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, on June 8, 1999, the House voted on the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies FY 2000 Appropriations Act. More specifically, when the vote on the Chabot amendment (rollcall No. 174) took place, I was unavoidably detained. The Chabot amendment would have sought to prohibit funding for Market Access Program allocations. If I was present, I would have voted "no."

SUMTER, SOUTH CAROLINA ROTARY CLUB DEVELOPS "CART" FUND

HON. JOHN M. SPRATT, JR.

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 1, 1999

Mr. SPRATT. Mr. Speaker, every day Alzheimer's disease claims more victims. Over four million Americans suffer from this dread disease, and scientists predict that unless cures are found, the number of victims will grow to fourteen million within the next twenty-five years. More people are also experiencing the tragedy second-hand as family members or friends of someone afflicted with Alzheimer's. They too feel helpless in the face of this awful illness. Options for treatment are limited, and care for the victim can be difficult and demanding. Family and friends become frustrated, not knowing what they can do.

The members of the Rotary Club in Sumter, South Carolina have found that there is something we can do. They have devised a technique to raise money for research, a technique so successful that I would like to share it with Congress and call attention to it, because what Rotarians have started in Sumter deserves to be copied across America.

There is hope on the horizon for Alzheimer's disease. Research teams are making progress in our understanding the disease. In 1995, scientists identified the gene believed to cause the most aggressive form of the disease. But no cause or cure has been found yet, and future research will require millions of dollars.

To help support the search for a cure, the Sumter Rotary Club developed what it calls the "CART" fund—Coins for Alzheimer's Research Trust. At each club meeting, Rotarians

are asked to empty their pockets of loose change—a small gesture that has generated large results. In a nine-month period, the 155 members of the Sumter Rotary Club raised over \$4,200 in this manner. Their success led them to share their idea with District 7770, which consists of 71 Rotary clubs with some 5,000 members. District 7770 adopted the project in 1996, and made Roger Ackerman Chairman and Dr. Jack Bevan and General Howard Davis (Retired) Co-Chairmen. District 7770 is driving forward with two major goals—awarding a \$100,000 grant to a medical institution on the cutting edge of Alzheimer's research and encouraging other Rotary districts to start a CART campaign. The other Rotary district in South Carolina, District 7750, plans to launch the project next month, and by next summer, the team hopes to add ten more districts. Their ultimate goal: to have Rotary International to adopt the project.

I am proud to represent these enterprising Rotarians. I commend them for spearheading this worthy project and encourage others across America to follow their example.

BRIGHTON HERITAGE MUSEUM

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 1, 1999

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to commend the residents of Brighton, IL as well as the Brighton Heritage Museum for the great strides they have taken to educate children about the past. "Maybe if people knew what happened before it would help them to decide some things in the future," June Wilderman, curator of the museum said. The museum displays numerous artifacts and stories from American history that have been donated by residents. There is even a piece of stone taken from the site of the Washington Monument when it was being built.

I am pleased to see the community coming together to help educate its young people and trying to create a deep sense of patriotism in their children and grandchildren. Educating our youth about the past is an essential part of creating a positive future.

HONORING THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NORTHWEST MICHIGAN HORTICULTURE RESEARCH STATION

HON. DEBBIE STABENOW

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 1, 1999

Ms. STABENOW. Mr. Speaker, Tuesday, July 6 marks the 20th anniversary of the Northwest Michigan Horticulture Research Station.

In 1979, cherry farmers, Michigan State University horticulture and Extension faculty, Michigan Department of Agriculture, USDA and fruit industry representatives banded together, sharing information and resources, to form a research station in the hopes of keeping themselves on the cutting edge of agriculture techniques.